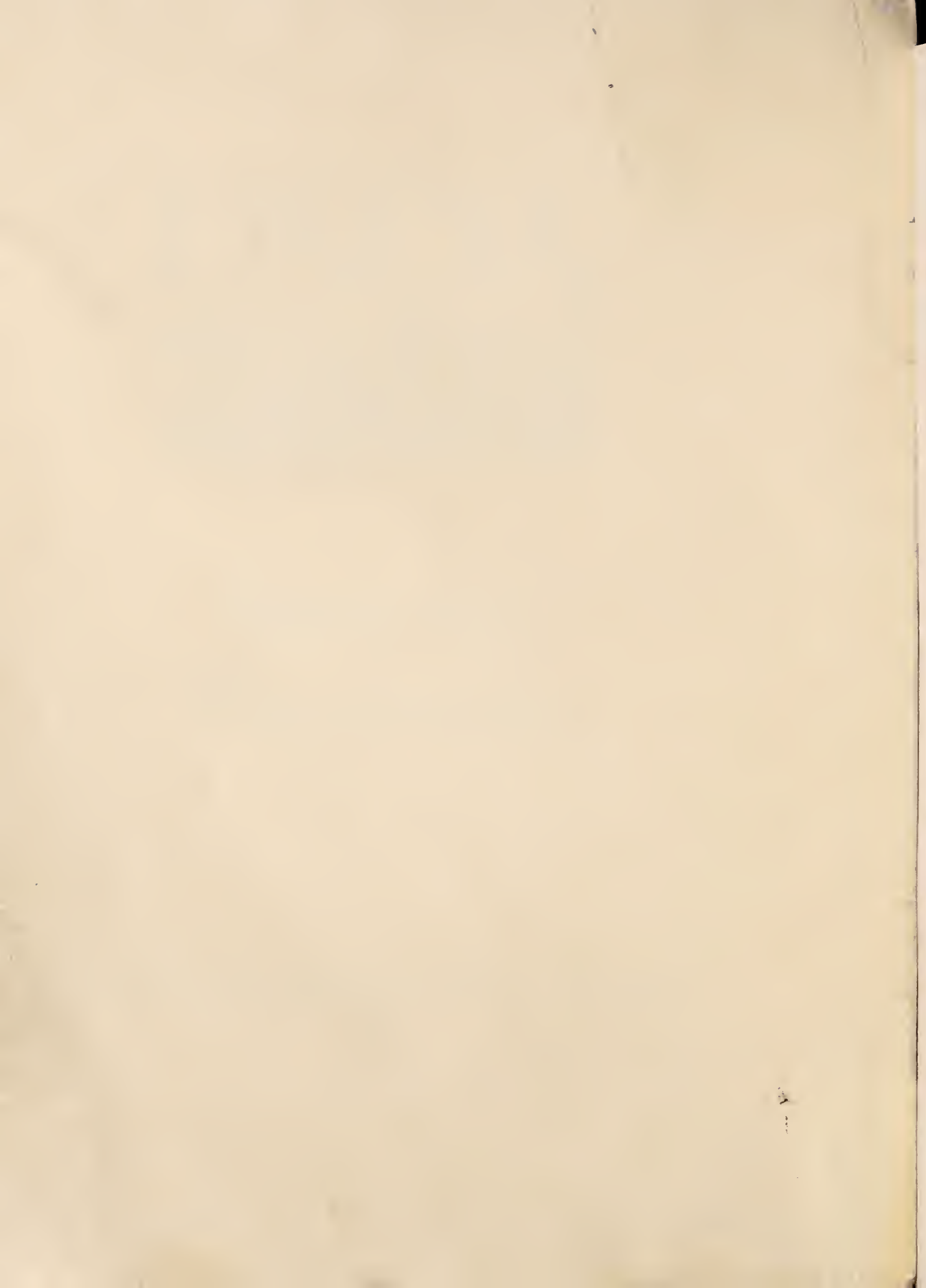


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VEGETABLE Situation



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Table 1.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1968, 1969, and indicated 1970 ^{1/}

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage					Production				
	1968	1969	Indi- cated	1970		1968	1969	Indi- cated	1970	
				Percent of					Percent of	
				1968	1969				1968	1969
<div>-- 1,000 acres --</div> <div>-- Percent --</div> <div>-- 1,000 cwt. --</div> <div>-- Percent --</div>										
Winter 2/	213.4	246.0	237.1	111	96	36,368	38,629	35,532	98	92
Spring:										
Asparagus 2/										
spring	46.7	44.7	42.9	92	96	1,494	1,296	1,287	86	99
late	78.7	79.1	77.1	98	97	1,741	1,621	1,669	96	103
Beans, snap										
early, and mid 3/	22.6	21.2	20.7	92	98	717	644	471	66	73
Broccoli 2/ 4/	17.3	11.8	16.1	93	136	1,557	885	1,369	88	155
Cabbage 2/										
early	9.9	10.0	8.6	87	86	1,350	1,390	1,375	102	99
late	6.4	5.9	5.9	92	100	850	805	n.a.	---	---
Cantaloups	38.2	48.1	38.6	101	80	3,841	4,848	n.a.	---	---
Carrots 2/	3.7	2.8	2.6	70	93	610	504	468	77	93
Cauliflower 2/ 4/	8.6	6.6	7.5	87	114	774	594	675	87	114
Celery 2/	7.5	8.3	8.7	116	105	3,218	3,520	3,776	117	107
Corn, sweet 4/	35.7	44.3	41.4	116	93	2,832	3,412	3,100	109	91
Cucumbers 4/	11.1	11.8	10.8	97	92	1,022	1,192	882	86	74
Eggplant	.7	1.0	.8	114	80	108	135	113	105	84
Lettuce 4/	45.4	42.8	47.0	104	110	8,999	8,250	9,265	103	112
Onions 2/										
early	21.5	21.0	18.0	84	86	2,472	3,045	2,250	91	74
late	9.3	7.9	7.7	83	97	2,742	2,402	n.a.	---	---
Peppers, green 2/	8.0	9.6	7.8	98	81	801	906	615	77	68
Spinach	2.2	2.4	2.0	91	83	121	135	108	89	80
Tomatoes 4/	17.8	23.7	23.7	133	100	3,240	3,200	2,689	83	84
Watermelons										
late	61.6	59.1	51.3	83	87	8,372	7,963	n.a.	---	---
Summer: 5/										
Cabbage 2/										
early	5.1	4.8	4.8	94	100	1,078	1,031	n.a.	---	---
late	13.9	13.3	13.5	97	102	2,919	2,909	n.a.	---	---
Garlic 2/	6.4	7.3	5.6	88	77	800	840	n.a.	---	---
Onions 2/										
early	15.0	12.6	13.2	88	105	3,262	2,942	n.a.	---	---
late	59.8	59.0	61.8	103	105	20,217	19,628	n.a.	---	---
Watermelons										
early	200.6	198.8	197.4	98	99	16,195	15,710	n.a.	---	---
late	17.0	19.0	19.2	113	101	2,318	2,635	n.a.	---	---

^{1/} Excludes Alaska and Hawaii, which are not divided into seasonal groups.^{2/} Includes processing.^{3/} Production for early spring only.^{4/} Acreage and production for early spring only.^{5/} 1970 prospective acreage.

n.a. - not available.

Vegetables-Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
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Principal contributor:

Charles W. Porter

Economic and Statistical
Analysis Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

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SUMMARY

Fewer vegetables and melons are expected this spring. Production of 14 fresh vegetables is expected to total 1 to 2 percent less than in 1969. Reduced processed vegetable stocks contrast with the heavy supplies on hand a year earlier. Potato supplies remain heavy in the West, but relatively light in the East. Stocks of dried beans are larger than last year.

Fresh vegetable crops in Florida were damaged by late March rains, which reduced and delayed harvest of tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, sweet corn, and even relatively hardy cabbage. More cabbage from Texas and California and increased imports of tomatoes from Mexico have partly offset lighter supplies from Florida. Although Florida vegetable supplies are increasing seasonally, they will not reach year-earlier levels. The early-spring onion crop in Texas is one-fourth less. In California, another major source of spring vegetables, lettuce supplies continue to be substantially larger; and supplies of broccoli and cauliflower have been normal in recent weeks. Both Florida and California anticipate somewhat larger supplies of spring celery.

On balance, early-spring and spring vegetable supplies are expected to be down only 1 to 2 percent nationally. Prices for most vegetables the next few weeks likely will remain moderately above a year earlier, even though supplies will be increasing seasonally.

Cantaloup supplies in 1970, based on first acreage indications, will be markedly below the unusually large 1969 output. Due to smaller plantings, late-spring watermelons will also be in somewhat lighter supply. A nominal reduction is expected in early-summer watermelon acreage.

Processed vegetable inventories are moderately under a year ago, and carryover into the next marketing season will continue smaller than the heavy carryovers of the past two seasons. With supplies of many canned and frozen vegetables still liberal, however, packers apparently are again contracting for less total

acreage this year. Wholesale prices have gained only modestly thus far. Intentions reports show that processing acreage will be down moderately for the second year in a row. Growers plan to reduce acreage for all major vegetables except kraut cabbage and winter spinach. Intended acreage reductions suggest smaller packs of sweet corn, lima beans, and tomatoes, and somewhat smaller packs of snap beans and peas. Total supplies of canned and frozen vegetables are likely to be much more closely geared to market needs in the 1970/71 season, assuming average growing conditions.

Potato supplies are below a year earlier. March 1 stocks of 1969 fall crop potatoes were down slightly, disappearance, including a relatively large shrinkage, has exceeded that of the previous season, cutting into the increased supplies from the fall crop. Inventories of frozen potatoes on March 1 were up 2 percent, an indication of good demand by processors. A large quantity was processed during March; April 1, stocks of 534 million pounds were 4 percent higher than in 1969.

Early-spring potato production is down a fourth from 1969. Harvest will be later than usual in the important Hastings Florida area.

Volume movement is expected from mid-May to mid-June. Production estimates are not available for the late-spring crop, but acreage for harvest is down about a tenth from 1969. Growers of late-summer and fall potatoes plan 2 percent more acreage than in 1969.

The sweetpotato industry expects to cut acreage moderately in 1970. Last season slightly larger supplies resulted in prices sharply below the relatively high year-earlier levels. Prospective plantings are down nearly 5 percent with largest reductions planned in the mid-Atlantic States and Virginia. Only Louisiana expects to grow more this year.

Dry bean supplies have been the largest in 3 years, but market prices have been mixed. With fewer colored beans, prices have been higher than 1968/69, but pea beans have been trading only slightly above support levels. Pinto beans are as much as \$3.00 a hundredweight higher than a year ago, while pea beans and great northern are quoted about \$1.50 lower than in the previous season. Growers have reported intentions to plant virtually the same acreage this year, and carry-in stocks are not expected to be burdensome. Total supplies for 1970/71 probably will rise somewhat.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

FRESH VEGETABLES

Slightly Smaller Supplies

Supplies of vegetables this spring will probably be only slightly less than a year ago. Production of 14 vegetables, which provide three-fourths of the early-spring and spring crops will total 1 to 2 percent less than in 1969.

Late March rains hurt fresh vegetable crops in Florida. Harvests of many vegetables--tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, sweet corn, and even relatively hardy cabbage--were both reduced and delayed. More cabbage from Texas and California, and increased imports of tomatoes from Mexico, have partly offset the lighter supplies from Florida. Although Florida vegetable supplies are increasing seasonally, they will not reach year-earlier levels. The early-spring onion crop in Texas is down a fourth. In

California, another major source of spring vegetables, lettuce supplies continue to be substantially larger, and broccoli and cauliflower supplies have been increasing toward usual levels in recent weeks. In both Florida and California a somewhat larger supply of spring celery is expected.

With continued strong demand and smaller supplies of a number of items, prices for most vegetables the next few weeks likely will remain moderately above a year earlier, even though supplies will be increasing seasonally.

Cantaloup supplies in 1970 may be markedly smaller than 1969 but closer to levels of other recent years according to first acreage indications. Due to smaller plantings, late-spring watermelons will also be in somewhat lighter supply. A nominal reduction is also expected in early-summer watermelon acreage.

Prospects for major fresh vegetables

Tomatoes--Winter tomato supplies from Florida were down almost 40 percent from a year earlier. But sharply increased Mexican imports resulted only in a moderate decline in total supplies. So far this year prices for both domestic and imported tomatoes have averaged higher. Through mid-April, shipments from Mexico were about one-fourth larger than the previous record levels for the same dates last year. Cumulative shipments to date from Florida and Mexico combined, total 3 percent less than a year ago.

Domestic early-spring tomato production is forecast a sixth less than a year earlier. Florida acreage for harvest is down from the rather large 1969 plantings of a year earlier. Peak volume from Florida, the major producer, is expected in May when all areas come into production. Thus far, the harvest has been delayed and reduced by heavy rains. However, market supplies from Florida will be gradually increasing into May, and prices are expected to decline. Mexican imports should drop seasonally during May.

Carrots--From now into summer, carrot supplies will be originating in California and south Texas with some from Arizona, and production in these areas is down moderately from 1969. Shipping point prices so far have been little different from the low prices re-

ceived a year earlier. Texas shipments are tapering off seasonally; Arizona is presently shipping a modest volume from a 7 percent smaller crop.

Cabbage--The winter crop of cabbage was down 9 percent from 1969 due to lower yields and less acreage in Florida. Larger supplies from Texas and California did not make up the difference. Prices have been higher so far this year, but as more Florida areas are now contributing to total output, some price decline is occurring. Shipments from Texas are expected to taper off gradually into late April and early May. Shipments from some of these winter crop areas will continue through May, with spring crop States also harvesting during May and into June.

Early-spring cabbage production is expected to nearly match a year earlier, as the increase in California almost offsets higher crops expected elsewhere. With this production pattern, cabbage prices are likely to move somewhat lower the next 6 weeks but remain above 1969.

Early-spring production in the Southeast will probably be substantially less than in recent years. The long-term trend shows somewhat less production coming from these States, but a stable to slight increase within the winter harvest States.

Table 2.--Major Sources of U.S. Winter Tomato Supplies*

Season	:	Florida	:	Mexico	:	Total	:	Mexico as per-
Oct. 22-Apr. 22	:		:		:		:	cent of total
	:		:		:		:	
	:	- - - - - Carlots - - - - -					:	<u>Percent</u>
1965/66	:	12,855	:	9,386	:	22,241	:	42
1966/67	:	13,217	:	9,498	:	22,715	:	42
1967/68	:	12,478	:	7,992	:	20,470	:	39
1968/69	:	10,381	:	11,584	:	21,965	:	53
1969/70	:	6,581	:	14,719	:	21,300	:	69

*Fruit and Vegetable Division - C&MS - USDA

Prospective plantings of cabbage in late-spring, early-summer, and late-summer States are substantially the same as a year earlier.

Lettuce--Supplies from California and Arizona, the two most important States in the early-spring harvest season, are expected to be an eighth larger than a year earlier. California acreage is up about one-third. Arizona shows a 3 percent increase. Expected yields are about average, and generous shipments have been moving to major markets at a steady pace, keeping prices substantially under a year earlier. Supplies are expected to be on the generous side for the next few weeks at least. The important Salinas-Watsonville district of California began cutting much earlier than usual.

Celery--Winter celery supplies have been moderately smaller than a year earlier, and prices were higher until early March. Since then, prices have been edging below 1969. Spring celery production will probably be larger this year, as both acreage and yield are somewhat higher. Prices in Florida in January were around \$4.00 per crate, but moved down to about \$2.75 by early April. After allowing for temporary gaps between shipping areas, supplies are expected to be somewhat larger than last year for the next several weeks.

Sweet corn--Sweet corn supplies for the next few weeks are expected to continue below a year earlier, and a little below the average of other recent years. Prospective production for early-spring harvest is 9 percent less than in 1969. Supplies are expected to expand sharply about May 1 as Everglades volume gains. In the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, harvest is expected also about May 1, about 2 weeks later than last year due to weather. Prices have started to move down seasonally from the very high winter levels. However, smaller supplies probably will hold prices materially above a year earlier through May.

Snap beans--After some delay caused by unfavorable weather, the early spring crop of snap beans reached substantial market volume by mid-April. The forecast for the Florida crop is for 12 percent larger supplies this year. Prices had been above year-earlier levels through the first week in April, but heavier shipments had pushed prices below \$3.00 a bushel by the 11th. Florida shipments are declining seasonally and are being replaced by the mid-spring crop from Georgia and Alabama. Light harvest from a slightly smaller acreage

is expected to begin the first full week of May--about 10 days later than usual. Volume pickings are expected the following week.

Cantaloups--Cantaloup acreage for harvest this spring, although slightly above the average of most recent years, is sharply less than in 1969. California and Arizona cut back acreage a third this season in response to lower 1969 prices. Texas acreage is nearly the same this year, and the modest Florida planting is the same as a year earlier. The first appreciable domestic supplies will appear in early May from south Florida and the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Harvest in Arizona and the Imperial Valley of California will start in mid-May.

Watermelons--Acreage of melons for spring harvest is an eighth less than 1969, with reductions in both California and Florida. Harvest in Florida, delayed somewhat, likely will begin in early May. In the Ft. Myers-Immokalee areas, crop conditions range from poor to good. Peak Florida harvest is expected in June, and the first melons in California are due from the Imperial Valley late in May.

Prospective acreage of early and late-summer melons is almost the same as in 1969. The bulk of supplies comes from early-summer acreage which has recently held close to 200,000 acres annually.

Dry onions--Supplies have been light and continue sharply below the plentiful supplies available last year. A one-fourth smaller spring crop from Texas has been meeting light market volume from northern storage stocks. Acreage of early-spring onions from Texas is the lowest since 1966, and the yield is expected to be 5 percent under the 1964-68 average. Cold weather reduced yield prospects in the lower Rio Grande Valley in March, but harvest gained momentum late in that month. Peak supplies came in mid-April.

Late-spring onion acreage is slightly less than last year, but California's plantings are about unchanged. Imperial Valley harvest began in early April. With supplies increasing seasonally, prices have moved lower, but should remain substantially above last season.

By June, these spring crops will be supplemented by early-summer production. Grower intentions suggest a moderate acreage increase for early summer. Growers in the

important late-summer States--California, New York, Michigan, and Oregon--plan a net acreage increase of 5 percent.

Asparagus--Production from the spring harvest areas of California is very close to a year earlier. Movement from the Imperial and Coachella Valleys is largely completed. In the northern areas good volume was harvested during April with much of the crop going for processing.

The late-spring States anticipate a 3 percent larger crop. New Jersey's first harvest is expected in late April, a few days later than usual. All other spring States will be harvesting from acreages roughly comparable to 1968 and 1969.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Supplies of most processed vegetables remain above average, but not as large as a year earlier. Prices for canned vegetables were under the pressure of heavy supplies early in the present marketing season, but supplies are gradually approaching better working levels, and since late last fall, modest price increases have occurred.

The current marketing season began with a tenth smaller total supply of canned vegetables than the large volume of a year earlier. Shipments of canned vegetables have been heavier than the average of recent years, but have been a little below the 1968/69 movement. Stocks of canned vegetables early in the year totaled moderately less than the record of a year earlier.

Stocks of frozen vegetables excluding potatoes on April 1, 1970, were still 4 percent less than the 1969 record. There were fewer green peas and snap beans but more lima beans and sweet corn. Among other vegetables, stocks of broccoli, brussels sprouts, and asparagus were smaller. Light spinach stocks were replenished during March.

Prospective Acreage Reduced

March and April intentions reports for 9 major vegetables--which account for 90 percent of the annual processing tonnage--indicated that total acreage of these crops will be materially smaller than in 1969 (table 3).

Packers plan to contract more acreage of winter spinach and cabbage for kraut, but cuts for other canning crops range from 8 percent for lima beans to 2 percent for cucumbers for pickles.

Substantial acreage cuts are expected for some freezing vegetables. Prospective acreage is down a fifth for sweet corn and lima beans and 8 percent for peas. Little change is expected in snap bean acreage, but more winter spinach is likely.

The intended acreages with average yields would result in less production than the previous year. Packs of all major canned vegetables probably will decline again as the industry attempts to bring supply into closer balance with anticipated demand. With a smaller carry-over, supplies of canned vegetables for the 1970/71 season are likely to total about an eighth less than this season.

The total frozen vegetable pack also promises to be down for the second year in a row. Although supplies of frozen vegetables in 1970/71 are expected to be ample to meet trade needs, substantial cuts are likely for sweet corn, and lima beans, and lesser reductions are in store for peas and snap beans. More winter spinach is expected.

Combined supplies of frozen and canned vegetables in 1970 are likely to be much closer to trade needs. Wholesale prices for many items are likely to show further strength. The extent and timing of price increases will depend upon crop progress and 1970 harvest conditions.

Lima beans--Canned lima bean stocks were 3 percent above a year earlier on March 1. Disappearance so far this season was equal to a year ago, but larger carryin more than offset a moderately smaller 1969 pack. This suggests that supplies of canned limas will continue to be more than adequate despite prospects for a smaller pack. The April survey of prospective plantings notes that lima bean canners plan to contract about 8 percent fewer acres this season.

Slow trade movement has resulted in unusually heavy stocks of frozen Fordhooks and baby limas. As a result, freezers plan 19 percent fewer acres this season. The market is gradually working off the heavy packs of the previous 3 years. With lima beans there has been a pattern of 2 or 3 consecutively large packs followed by 2 or 3 years with reduced

tonnages. Thus, growers and freezers seem to be following the usual pattern. Packs of frozen limas have ranged widely in recent years, going from a recent low of 115 million pounds to a high of 165 million.

Snap beans--A smaller 1969 pack plus a heavy rate of shipments left March 1 canners' stocks 8 percent below a year ago, but stocks still exceed any other year. Consumption of snap beans increased throughout the 1960's. But even with the prospect of continued good movement of beans into retail channels, 5 percent less acreage for canning is expected this season. Canning tonnage could also fall moderately.

April 1 stocks of frozen snap beans were about a fifth under a year earlier due to a reduced 1969 pack. The acreage for freezing is expected to be the same as a year earlier.

Sweet corn--Supplies of canned sweet corn are 7 percent below the record quantity on hand a year earlier. The 1969 pack was 17 percent smaller, but the unusually large carry-over last August boosted seasonal supplies nearly to the record level of a year earlier. Price cuts in January improved subsequent movement into retail channels. But even if movement the rest of the season equals the year-earlier performance, another large carryover is in prospect.

Canners are planning to contract 4 percent fewer acres of corn in 1970, with cuts expected in all sections. Projected canning tonnage is about 8 percent less than in 1969.

Stocks of frozen sweet corn are at record levels--3 percent higher than 1969. Disappearance has been heavy, but prices to processors

Table 3.--Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings

Crop	Planted acreage			1970 as percentage of	
	Average	1969	Prospect	Average	1969
	1964-68		tive 1970	1964-68	
	1,000 acres			Percent	
Beans, green lima:					
Freezing	65	57	46	71	81
Canning	33	32	29	88	91
Beans, snap:					
Freezing	62	51	50	81	98
Canning	202	200	191	95	96
Beets for canning	18	19	16	89	84
Cabbage for kraut, contract only	9	11	12	133	109
Corn, sweet:					
Freezing	118	118	95	81	81
Canning	349	347	332	95	96
Cucumbers for pickles	141	140	138	98	99
Peas, green:					
Freezing	169	161	148	88	92
Canning	303	280	264	87	94
Spinach, winter:					
Freezing	6	4	5	83	125
Canning	5	5	5	100	100
Tomatoes	310	272	256	83	94
Total 9 crops	1,790	1,697	1,587	89	94

have been relatively low, and acreage is expected to be down 20 percent from 1969. This would be the smallest acreage since the early 1960's.

Green peas--Further acreage reductions are expected this year as March reports show prospective processing acreage down 7 percent. Acreage for freezing is expected to be cut 8 percent and for canning 6 percent. With normal acreage abandonment and yields on trend, output of peas would be down about in line with the cuts in acreage.

Disappearance of canned peas had been running about 3 percent less than the 2 previous pack seasons, and the carryover into the new season will again exceed normal needs, though not by as much as in 1969. April 1 stocks of 11 million cases (basis 24/303's) were 16 percent less than the heavy supplies of a year earlier. Frozen pea stocks were down only 4 percent on April 1. Movement has been a little higher in recent months, but the carry-in to the new pack year will still be larger than any year except 1969.

Tomatoes--Despite a sharp cut in tomato tonnage and reduced 1969 packs, supplies of tomatoes and tomato products at the beginning of the current season apparently exceeded market needs. However, a couple of rounds of modest price advances suggest that supplies are approaching more manageable levels. Complete data on tomato packs and stocks are not available, but raw product tonnage in 1969 was down 29 percent from the 1968 record.

As a result of heavy supplies and low prices, imports of tomatoes and tomato products during calendar year 1969 were down sharply. Canned tomato imports were down 21 percent, while paste and sauce imports were off 45 percent from 1968 record levels.

The anticipation that 1970 tomato acreage probably will again be reduced has lent some strength to the market especially for canned tomatoes and juice; but prices still are fairly low, and prospective plantings are down 6 percent nationally. California, which accounts for about 70 percent of all processing tomato production, plans 7 percent fewer acres. Two percent less acreage is forecast for the Midwest--primarily Ohio and Indiana--and 7 percent less for the eastern States. The planned acreage together with expected yields probably would result in about 5 percent less tonnage than in 1969.

Cucumbers for pickles--The 1969/70 disappearance of pickles is likely to equal or slightly exceed last year's volume of 560,000 tons. With the reduced output in 1969, supplies are moderately below the record quantity on hand a year earlier. The prospective planted acreage of 138,000 is down 2 percent from last year and 14 percent below 1968. There are substantial shifts among the major producing States. Michigan and North Carolina plan to raise more, but less is expected from Wisconsin, Texas, and California.

Sauerkraut--The 1969 kraut pack was nearly 4 percent below a year earlier, and the carryover of old pack was down as well, keeping prices on a firm basis. Stocks of 4.5 million cases (basis 24/303's) on April 1 were about 7 percent below last year.

Intentions reports in early April indicated that kraut packers were planning to contract 9 percent more acres than in 1969. Also, yield per acre may be above the relatively low yield of 1969. Given average weather conditions in 1970, contract tonnage would increase substantially. However, if only a slight increase occurs a larger volume of open market purchases will likely be made late this summer and fall.

Beets--Stocks of canned beets at the beginning of the current season were 8 percent under the record a year earlier. Also, the July-December 1969 pack was down more than a fifth from the same period a year earlier. But compared with most other recent years, supplies still are relatively large. Even with a favorable rate of shipment the remainder of the season, the carryover on July 1 will probably be fairly heavy.

Processors plan to cut planted acreage 16 percent in 1970 in an effort to bring supplies more in line with market requirements. Wisconsin and Texas account for most of this decline; New York acreage is expected to hold close to 1969.

Spinach--Frozen spinach supplies, with a 22 million pounds carryin, were roughly half the quantity on hand the previous 2 years. This smaller supply will be partly offset by the 7 percent increase in the winter crop for processing which is currently being harvested. Also, early indications are that a larger portion of the 1970 winter crop will be used for freezing. Stocks on April 1 had moved up to 40 million pounds. Acreage is up in both California and Florida, but unfavorable weather has reduced yield prospects in Florida.

The 1969 summer pack of canned spinach appears to be about a tenth below 1968 and 1969. Current stocks data are not available. Recent prices have practically matched year-ago levels.

POTATOES

Prices Mixed

The market for potatoes this past fall and winter showed a mixed price pattern. The 6 percent larger U.S. fall crop put early-season pressure on prices in all regions. But supplies were smaller in the East, and prices in these round white production areas experienced some improvement by mid-January. And late in February, prices moved up sharply as marketings dipped temporarily. By mid-March, shipping point prices had eased back to \$2.70 - \$2.75 per hundredweight and have held around that level, about 75 cents above a year earlier. By contrast, prices in the West have remained under pressure because of large supplies. However, western markets have been aided to some extent by expanded processing use, smaller supplies in competing regions, and by prospects for a sizable

cut in spring production. Shipping point prices for Russets have been about 80 cents to a dollar under a year earlier, but strengthened after mid-April.

According to rail and truck unloads in major markets, movement of the fall crop to chippers and table stock outlets has been less than a year earlier. However, raw product use for dehydrated and frozen products has increased substantially. For example, the 1969 pack of frozen potato products--mostly fries--topped 2 billion pounds for an 18 percent gain over 1968. This pack which is reported on a calendar year basis includes raw products from the large western fall crop.

Potato Supplies--First Half 1970

Total supplies of potatoes this spring are below a year earlier. Stocks of 1969 fall crop potatoes on March 1 were down slightly. Total disappearance including a relatively large shrinkage has exceeded that of the previous season, cutting into larger supplies from the fall crop. Inventories of frozen potatoes on the same date were only 2 percent higher than a year earlier, an indication of good demand for the large quantity packed.

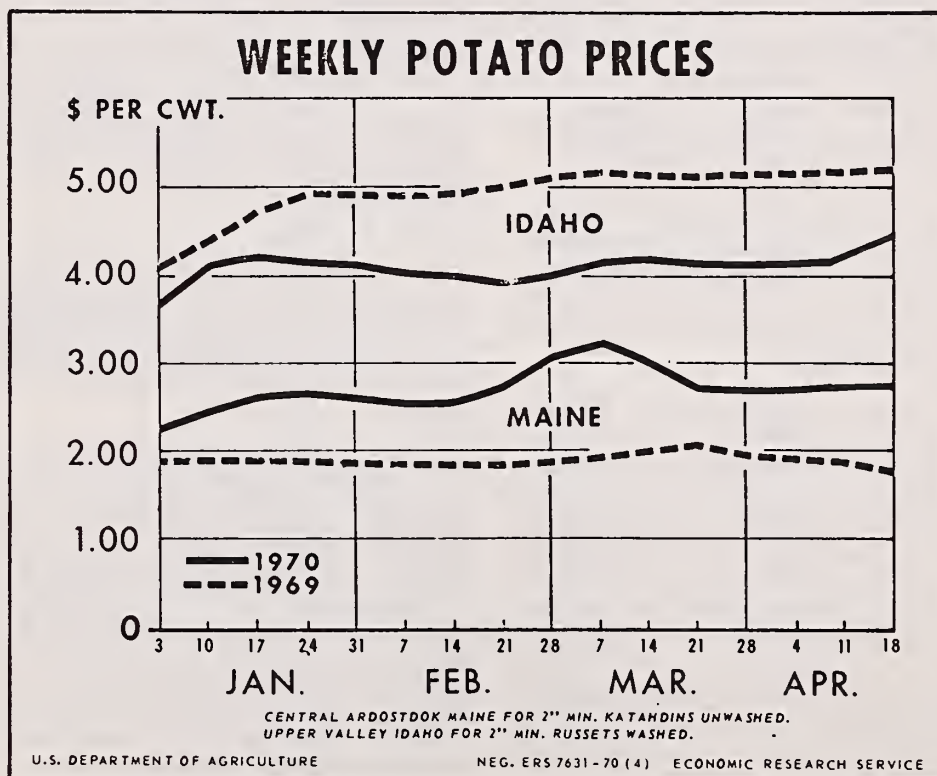


Table 4.--Potatoes, late summer-fall: Prospective plantings

Crop and area	Acreage planted			1970 as percentage of 1969
	Average 1964-68	1969	Prospective 1970 <u>1/</u>	
	----- 1,000 acres -----			Percent
Late summer-fall				
Maine	153.0	161.0	159.0	99
New York-Long Island	37.5	33.2	33.0	99
-Upstate	38.7	36.0	34.5	96
Pennsylvania	38.4	36.0	34.0	94
Other States <u>2/</u>	46.3	39.3	35.8	91
Eastern	313.9	305.5	296.3	97
Michigan	45.9	42.0	40.5	96
Wisconsin	58.8	54.0	53.0	98
Minnesota	109.1	107.0	113.1	106
North Dakota	114.8	115.0	121.0	105
Other States <u>3/</u>	45.9	43.6	47.8	110
Central	374.5	361.6	375.4	104
Idaho	290.8	314.0	321.0	102
Colorado	47.0	53.5	57.0	107
Washington	55.3	72.0	82.0	114
Oregon	42.3	50.5	54.0	107
California	37.1	36.5	35.9	98
Other States <u>4/</u>	23.0	22.6	21.1	93
Western	495.5	549.1	571.0	104
Total late summer-fall	1,183.9	1,216.2	1,242.7	102.2

1/ Intended acreage as of March 1.

2/ New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina.

3/ Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Illinois.

4/ Montana, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

**Table 5.--Pack of Frozen
Potato Products***

<u>Year</u>	<u>Million lbs.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Million lbs.</u>
1960	551	1965	1,219
1961	579	1966	1,460
1962	762	1967	1,491
1963	862	1968	1,736
1964	1,118	1969	2,048

*American Frozen Food Institute

New crop supplies have been and will continue substantially less this spring, since early-spring production is down a fourth from 1969. In the important Hastings Florida areas, which accounts for the bulk of the early-spring crop, harvest will be later than usual. Volume movement is expected from mid-May to mid-June. Movement from "other" sections of Florida lagged in April.

Harvest of the 19 percent below average (1964-68) winter potato crop was virtually completed by the end of April. California finished harvest in early April, and Ft. Myers-Immokalee followed by the middle of the month.

Production estimates are not available for the late-spring crop; acreage for harvest is 80,000, down a tenth from 1969. In recent years, California and Arizona have been accounting for a larger share of total plantings in this seasonal group. In Alabama, expected plantings are down a fourth from a year earlier, while North Carolina acreage is down slightly.

Late-Summer and Fall Prospects

Growers of late-summer and fall potatoes intend to plant 1.2 million acres, 2 percent more than in 1969. A 4 percent increase in both the central and western regions more than offsets a 3 percent reduction in eastern States. Maine growers plan a 1 percent cut in acreage, but Minnesota expects 6 percent more, North Dakota is up 5 percent, and Idaho is up 2 percent. These 4 States account for more than half the acreage in the late-summer and fall groups. The largest gain expected is the 10,000 additional acres in Washington.

If this late-summer and fall acreage is planted, and growers realize an average yield adjusted for trend, the 1970 total would be 2 percent above 1969.

SWEETPOTATOES

Demand Slow

Sweetpotato crops have varied little since 1966, totaling 13 to 14 million hundredweight. The 1969 crop was up about 1 percent, but demand has been dull, and prices have been pushed down substantially. Beginning in October 1969 sweetpotato prices have lagged as much as 14 percent under the comparable months a year earlier.

The 1969/70 pack of canned sweetpotatoes probably will exceed that of a year earlier. Wholesale prices for canned sweets have not weakened as much as those in fresh market outlets.

Under these market conditions, the industry expects to cut acreage moderately in 1970. Louisiana is the only State expected to grow a larger acreage this year. Prospective plantings nationally are down nearly 5 percent with sharpest reductions in the Mid-Atlantic States and Virginia; Texas and Mississippi are expected to maintain 1969 acreage. The U.S. total of 146,000 acres would be the smallest of record. Production from expected plantings and normal growing conditions would again be in the 13-14 million hundredweight range, 3 percent under 1969.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

The 1969 dry bean crop materially exceeded both the previous season and average. Even with a small carryover, supplies were more generous than any time since the 1966/67 season. Most of the increase in output came in Michigan pea bean production, which gained a fourth. Colored bean production was down 6 percent this season, reflecting smaller output of pintos, pinks, and blackeyes. Red kidney beans moved out of the short supply category as output rose nearly a third to 1.5 million hundredweight.

With more beans available, disappearance has shown a moderate increase. Domestic use will show some gain, and exports are expected to increase nearly a million hundredweight. Government purchases for donation have been running close to year-earlier levels. Stocks carried over at the end of August are expected to be about a fifth larger than the relatively small quantity carried into the current season.

The price pattern of the different classes of beans has been reversed this year. Prices for pinto beans are as much as \$3.00 a hundredweight higher than a year ago, while pea beans and great northern are quoted about \$1.50 lower this year. Pea bean prices have been fairly close to support levels this season, and more loan activity has reflected this market condition.

1969 Price Support Activity

Bean growers are using the support program more extensively this year. Through March 31, growers had placed 1.9 million hundredweight under loan; some 1.2 million hundredweight of old crop beans remained under loan--about the same quantity as a year earlier. Roughly half the beans going under loan were Michigan pea beans, and other white beans made up much of the balance. This season, loan maturity dates are extended until May 31.

Early in March, growers stated they intended to plant virtually the same acreage in dry beans this year as last. Largely in response to the current supply situation, the planting pattern varies considerably. Michigan acreage, primarily pea beans, is expected to be down 4 percent, although 7 percent more than in 1968. Idaho and Colorado producers expect to increase acreage 8 and 9 percent respectively. Acreage intentions for lima beans are down 7 percent in California, with "other" beans unchanged. Average yields, adjusted for trend, on intended acreage would result in a production of 19 million hundredweight compared with 18.8 million in 1969.

Slightly Increased Supply Potential

Stocks are larger than a year earlier, but movement continues at a satisfactory pace. Export markets have been absorbing much of the increase in supplies. Stocks remaining on hand September 1 are likely to be somewhat above a year earlier, but except for possibly pea beans the carryover will not be unusually large. And if intended plantings materialize and growing conditions are about average, supplies of most major classes likely will be in closer balance with demand in 1970/71 than in the current season.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Supplies of dry field peas rose sharply this season, as production jumped 29 percent over last year. Disappearance of peas has been relatively good, with export movement so far this season running 25 to 30 percent above last. But with the much larger supplies, prices to producers are well below those of a year ago but holding fairly close to prices of 2 and 3 years earlier. March prices to growers were \$4.27 hundredweight compared with \$6.20 a year earlier and \$4.41 for March 1968.

Growers plan to plant 10 percent more acres this season, and nearly a third more than in 1968. Such an acreage with average growing weather would produce a crop at least moderately larger than in 1969.

Table 6.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1969 and 1970

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1969		1970			
			Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
----- Dollars -----								
<u>New York:</u>								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	8.75	4.75	13.00	17.50	8.50	5.00
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-2/5 bu. crt. 2 doz.	3.25	3.25	3.35	3.75	4.00	3.65
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's crt.	4.50	3.25	5.00	5.00	4.25	3.65
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.35	2.25	5.25	5.00	5.00	4.00
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, crt.	4.75	3.50	6.50	4.50	4.25	3.75
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	3.25	3.12½	5.00	2.85	3.00	2.85
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd., 12's	6.50	4.40	2.00	---	4.75	5.25
Celery:								
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	5.90	5.75	8.50	7.40	5.25	5.75
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	4.50	4.65	6.75	5.40	4.50	5.00
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	4.85	3.35	6.50	---	4.75	5.00
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	7.50	5.25	12.50	---	---	---
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. crt.	7.00	4.00	4.37½	3.00	3.90	2.75
Onions:								
Yellow, medium	New York	50-lb. sack	1.85	1.85	3.85	4.15	4.85	4.75
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	---	2.65	---	---	---	4.75
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., lge.	4.25	4.75	11.00	15.00	---	---
Spinach, Savoy	Texas	Bu. bskt.	3.37½	---	1.75	2.65	2.75	4.50
<u>Chicago:</u>								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	10.50	4.90	13.00	16.00	8.50	4.75
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt., 24's	3.35	3.00	---	3.50	3.35	3.40
Broccoli	California	14's, 1/2 crate	3.75	3.30	4.75	4.25	3.65	4.00
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.65	2.60	5.40	4.50	5.00	4.00
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	3.50	2.90	5.75	3.50	3.00	3.35
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	---	4.60	---	6.50	4.25	4.15
Celery:								
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	5.50	5.25	7.25	6.75	5.15	5.50
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	5.00	4.85	6.35	5.90	4.40	4.75
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	5.00	3.40	6.35	---	5.75	5.00
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. head ctn.	6.75	4.00	4.25	---	3.35	2.65
Onions:								
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	---	2.30	---	---	---	4.35
Yellow, medium	Midwestern	50-lb. sack	1.50	1.60	3.40	4.25	4.25	3.10
Peppers, green	Florida	bu. bskt., lge.	5.25	4.90	11.00	---	---	---

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Reports, C&MS, USDA.

Table 7.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, January 1 to April 1

Commodity	April 1 stocks			January 1-April 1 net change		
	1968	1969	1970 1/	1968	1969	1970 1/
----- Million pounds -----						
Asparagus	12	12	7	-6	-8	-6
Beans, Lima:						
Fordhook	33	42	48	-13	-12	-14
Baby	56	61	60	-20	-19	-22
Total	89	103	108	-33	-31	-36
Beans, snap:						
Regular cut	83	90	75	-42	-38	-45
French style	30	30	25	-19	-20	-17
Total	113	120	100	-61	-58	-62
Broccoli	69	59	44	+5	-14	-8
Brussels sprouts	32	31	23	-3	-14	-14
Carrots	48	69	68	-30	-25	-31
Cauliflower	19	26	30	-9	-13	-15
Corn, sweet:						
Cut	n.a.	n.a.	177	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
On-cob	n.a.	n.a.	32	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total	144	204	209	-86	-87	-113
Peas and carrots	16	17	14	-2	-1	0
Peas, green	164	179	172	-103	-97	-106
Spinach	70	38	40	+9	-32	+3
Mixed vegetables	38	38	35	+2	-1	+2
Other vegetables	205	183	189	-19	-36	-31
Total vegetables	1,019	1,079	1,039	-336	-417	-417
Potatoes, French fried	477	513	534	+90	+117	+94
Grand total	1,496	1,592	1,573	-246	-300	-323

1/ Preliminary. n.a. - not available.
Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 8.--Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1969 and 1970

Commodity	1969		1970		
	February	March	January	February	March 1-15
----- Dollars -----					
Asparagus	41.40	31.60	---	32.60	29.50
Beans, snap	12.50	14.00	23.10	27.80	22.30
Broccoli	13.90	12.20	15.00	16.00	12.10
Cabbage	2.63	2.70	6.81	5.85	5.44
Carrots	4.73	4.82	7.50	5.57	4.74
Cauliflower	15.10	13.40	14.90	14.80	13.70
Celery	4.22	5.04	6.81	5.62	5.06
Corn, sweet	8.80	8.00	11.40	13.10	10.20
Cucumbers	9.70	10.00	16.00	---	---
Lettuce	5.01	8.65	4.25	3.48	3.99
Onions	2.41	2.51	6.39	7.02	6.89
Peppers, green	17.70	11.10	25.40	27.30	23.10
Spinach	9.10	10.80	11.70	10.80	10.30
Tomatoes	15.00	9.00	12.60	11.80	16.50

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 9.--Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1968 and 1969 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1969 and 1970, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
	1968	1969	Canners			Wholesale distributors		
			Date	1969	1970	Date	1969	1970
	1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's
<u>Major commodities</u>								
Beans, snap	51,842	47,456	Mar. 1	26,877	24,685	Jan. 1	3,828	3,705
Beets 1/	13,745	10,710	Jan. 1	10,310	9,488	Jan. 1	1,233	1,286
Corn, Sweet	59,278	49,387	Mar. 1	29,124	28,171	Jan. 1	4,229	4,205
Peas, green	36,231	32,071	Mar. 1	15,838	14,171	Jan. 1	3,296	3,278
Sauerkraut	2/12,517	2/12,039	Mar. 1	5,770	5,312	Jan. 1	778	748
Total	173,613	151,663		87,919	81,827		13,364	13,222
<u>Other commodities</u>								
Beans, lima	3,818	3,596	Mar. 1	2,527	2,606	Jan. 1	591	590
Field peas	2,446	2,946						
Carrots 1/	4,129	4,498	Jan. 1	3,790	3,911	Jan. 1	768	718
Okra 3/	822	843						
Pickles	2/62,120	2/56,890						
Pimientos	848	876						
Pumpkin and squash	4,551	5,244						
Potatoes	5,700	n.a.						
Sweetpotatoes	10,846	n.a.						
Other greens	2,779	3,440						
Vegetables, mixed	6,771	7,177						
Total comparable other items	88,284	85,510		6,317	6,517		1,359	1,308
Grand total comparable items	261,897	237,173		94,236	88,344		14,723	14,530

1/ Pack to January 1.

2/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 112 and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh).

3/ Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes.

n.a. - not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted.
Wholesale distributors' stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 10.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, averages 1935-39, 1947-49, 1950-54, 1955-59, and 1960 to date ^{1/}

(1910-14=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
1950-54	283	264	253	293	265	242	232	202	183	202	238	268	245
1955-59	271	291	295	288	273	248	232	205	208	225	254	256	254
Year													
1960	320	307	283	286	291	239	246	202	197	216	237	249	256
1961	241	240	247	307	270	292	261	209	211	212	247	239	248
1962	306	330	405	353	348	272	236	205	208	215	244	277	283
1963	330	308	265	270	253	286	274	210	202	227	294	303	268
1964	324	334	317	288	268	290	258	245	245	252	327	282	286
1965	259	278	327	344	392	332	277	252	253	273	290	285	297
1966	343	364	329	353	315	322	369	328	295	296	333	322	331
1967	333	320	318	349	334	391	355	278	265	285	323	335	324
1968	383	397	412	428	350	319	312	281	298	295	388	385	354
1969	354	364	358	345	463	333	335	321	305	341	499	430	371
1970 2/	444	447	433										

^{1/} The index for commercial fresh market vegetables was revised, beginning January 1958, to reflect changes in the method of reporting prices. All prices now are reported on a f.o.b. basis.

^{2/} Preliminary.

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11.--Potatoes: Acreage and prospective plantings for 1970 season, with comparisons

Seasonal group	Acreage 1964-68 average	Yield per acre average 1964-68	Acreage		
			1969	1970	1970 as percentage of 1969
	1,000 acres	Cwt.	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Acreage harvested:					
Winter	22.0	193	19.8	19.3	97.5
Early spring	31.9	138	32.5	29.6	91.1
Late spring	96.4	234	89.9	80.1	89.1
Total	150.3	---	142.2	129.0	90.7
Prospective plantings:					
Early summer ^{1/}	84.3	---	86.2	83.0	96.3
Late summer-fall ^{2/}	1,184.4	---	1,216.2	1,242.7	102.2
Total	1,268.7	---	1,302.4	1,325.7	101.8
Alaska, late summer-fall	---	---	.69	.76	110
Total	1,268.7	---	1,303.1	1,326.5	101.8

^{1/} Intended acreage for 1970 as of February 1.^{2/} Intended acreage for 1970 as of March 1.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12.--Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre and production, average 1964-68, 1969 and indicated 1970

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average : 1964-68 :	Indi- : cated : 1970 :	Average : 1964-68 :	Indi- : cated : 1970 :	Average : 1964-68 :	Indi- : cated : 1970 :	Average : 1964-68 :	Indi- : cated : 1970 :	
	<u>1,000 acres</u>			<u>Cwt.</u>			<u>Mil. cwt.</u>		
Winter	22.0	19.8	19.3	193	193	181	4.3	3.8	3.5
Early spring	31.9	32.5	29.6	138	175	147	4.4	5.7	4.3
Late spring	96.4	89.9	80.1	234	237	---	22.6	21.3	---

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 13.--Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1964-68, 1969 and indicated 1970

Area	Acreage			Percent		
	Average 1964-68	1969	Indicated 1970 1/2	1970 as percent- age of 1969		
	<u>1,000 acres</u>			<u>Percent</u>		
Central Atlantic 2/ Lower	25.5	18.6	14.9	80		
Atlantic 3/ Central 4/ California	33.2 87.3 8.3	39.0 87.8 8.2	35.0 89.5 6.8	90 102 83		
United States	154.3	153.6	146.2	95.2		

1/ Indicated as of March 1. 2/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. 3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. 4/ Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 14.--Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, at terminal markets, and to growers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1969, and 1970

Item	Week ended						
	1969			1970			
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 17	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18
----- Dollars -----							
<u>F.o.b. shipping points:</u>							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Reds <u>1/</u>	---	5.00	4.00	---	---	6.00	5.90
Old stock							
Colorado, San Luis Valley							
Red McClures <u>2/</u>	2.45	2.32	2.32	3.53	3.62	3.88	4.00
Idaho, Idaho Falls							
Russets <u>3/</u>	4.96	5.16	5.88	4.12	3.88	4.18	4.48
Maine, Aroostook County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Whites <u>1/</u> <u>4/</u>	1.84	2.00	1.88	2.62	2.52	3.02	2.76
New York, Upstate							
Katahdin <u>1/</u>	2.60	2.64	2.92	3.80	3.92	4.14	4.16
Michigan							
Round Whites <u>1/</u>	2.60	2.70	---	3.38	3.56	3.66	---

Tuesday nearest mid-month							
	1969			1970			
	Feb. 18	Mar. 18	Apr. 15	Jan. 13	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14
----- Dollars -----							
<u>Terminal markets:</u>							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds <u>1/</u> <u>5/</u>	---	7.70	6.30	---	---	9.00	7.80
Old stock							
Long Island, various Round Whites <u>1/</u> <u>5/</u>	3.00	3.10	3.00	3.90	3.80	4.30	4.00
Maine, Katahdin <u>1/</u> <u>4/</u> <u>5/</u>	3.20	3.20	3.30	4.00	4.00	4.50	4.20
Idaho, Russets <u>1/</u> <u>5/</u>	7.40	7.70	7.80	7.40	6.70	6.80	7.00
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds <u>1/</u> <u>5/</u> <u>6/</u>	9.30	6.70	5.80	---	8.20	8.50	7.80
Old stock							
Idaho, Russets <u>5/</u> <u>6/</u>	6.65	6.85	7.10	6.10	6.10	6.25	6.35
Minnesota-North Dakota							
Round Reds <u>5/</u> <u>6/</u>	3.60	3.25	3.15	3.80	4.10	4.40	4.35

Month							
	1969			1970			
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
----- Dollars -----							
U.S. price received by growers	2.26	2.50	2.61	2.22	2.36	2.59	n.a.
U.S. average parity price	3.06	3.09	3.11	3.14	3.17	3.17	n.a.

1/ 50 pound price doubled.

2/ 2-inch up, washed.

3/ 10-oz. minimum.

4/ 2-inch minimum.

5/ U.S. No. 1, Size A.

6/ Street sales.

n.a. - not available.

F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week as reported by Market News representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 15.--Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Louisiana and New Jersey points and terminal market prices at New York and Chicago for stocks of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods, 1969 and 1970

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1969			1970			
		Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 17	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18
		----- Dollars -----						
F.o.b. shipping points								
S.W. Louisiana points								
Porto Rico type, U.S.	50 pound							
No. 1, cured	crate	4.82	4.82	---	4.40	4.40	4.35	4.33
California, Porto Rico type	40 pound carton	4.65	4.85	4.82	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65
		Tuesday nearest mid-month						
		1969			1970			
		Feb. 18	Mar. 18	Apr. 15	Jan. 13	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14
		----- Dollars -----						
Terminal markets								
New York:								
New Jersey, orange	Bushel							
Jersey type	basket	4.25	4.50	4.50	2.75	2.75	3.10	---
North Carolina,	50 pound							
Porto Rico type	carton	5.50	5.60	5.25	4.25	4.25	4.15	4.50
Chicago:								
Louisiana,	50 pound							
Porto Rico type, cured	crate	5.65	5.65	5.50	5.10	5.30	5.30	5.30

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices.
Market prices are for Tuesday of each week as reported by Market News representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 16.--Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1969 and 1970

Commodity	1969			1970		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	
<hr/>						
----- Dollars -----						
<hr/>						
Sweetpotatoes	6.59	7.02	5.77	6.00	6.06	
Beans, dry edible	8.98	8.67	7.45	7.69	7.56	
Peas, dry field	5.31	6.20	4.27	4.27	4.27	

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17.--Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1970 season, with comparisons 1/

Group of States	Acreage planted			
	Average 1964-68	1969	Indicated 1970 <u>2/</u>	1970 as percentage of 1969
	- - - - - 1,000 acres - - - - -			Percent
New York	98	80	84	105
Michigan	626	689	661	96
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington	262	257	265	103
Minnesota and North Dakota	35	31	28	90
Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah	233	278	298	107
California	205	204	199	98
United States	1,459	1,539	1,535	99.7

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. 2/ Indications as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 18.--Peas, dry field: Prospective plantings for 1970 season, with comparisons 1/

State	Acreage planted			
	Average 1964-68	1969	Indicated 1970 <u>2/</u>	1970 as percentage of 1969
	- - - - - 1,000 acres - - - - -			Percent
Minnesota	9	8	10	125
North Dakota	6	4	5	125
Idaho	102	115	120	104
Washington	131	161	180	112
Oregon	11	12	15	125
United States	259	300	330	110.0

1/ In principal commercial producing States. 2/ Indications as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

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UTIL RES & DEVEL DIV ARS USDA
BOX 19687
NEW ORLEANS LA 70119